AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND → 917th WING, BARKSDALE AFB, LA → DECEMBER 2000

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Reserve A-10s smoke competition



Maj. Marc Olson, 47th Fighter Squadron A-10 instructor pilot, performs a preflight inspection on a BDU-33 practice munition at homestation. This is one of the munitions that was used by the 47 FS pilots during Hawgsmoke 2000.

By Master Sqt. Jessica D'Aurizio

The 47th Fighter Squadron competed in Hawgsmoke 2000 at Alpena Combined Readiness Training Center, Mich. This competition was the first tactical and conventional gunnery competition open to A-10 units all over the world.

Four pilots: Majs. Brady Glick, Jim Macaulay, Marc Olson, and Capt. Terry McClain represented the 47th in the 4-ship competition, on October 20. A total of fourteen teams participated in the event.

"The event was separated into two different categories; tactical and conventional bombing competitions," said Maj. Marc Olson, A-10 instructor pilot and 1st Place winner for Top Overall Pilot and Top Tactical Pilot. "The tactical event included a 4-ship Air Interdiction, Long Range Strafe and Maverick Attack, and the other was dropping bombs on target." The tactical and bombing competition was only 90 percent of the

overall score. The other 10 percent was scored during a Crud tournament later that evening.

"We failed miserably in the Crud tournament," said Olson. "The pool tables they had were smaller than the ones we are used to, but that's no excuse." The 47 FS was the only Reserve unit to participate in the competition. Even with the bad Crud luck they took Top Hawgsmoke Tactical Unit, 1st and 3rd Place in High Altitude Dive Bomb, 1st Place for Top Overall Pilot and Top Tactical Pilot, 1st Place for Long Range Strafe, and placed 2nd in the Overall Top Unit category.

"I believe maintenance played a huge part in our success because there were guys that lost out because their tape recording system did not work properly." said PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO Olson. "The weapons guys gave us good Mavericks and the tape recording system worked excellent. This is where we got our points." No

maintenance personnel were deployed to the event with the four pilots. The aircraft were loaded prior to departure from Barksdale.

"Crew chiefs at the competition commented on how well our A-10s were maintained," said Olson. "Our team was the only one with a perfect score on the Tactical Maverick Attack, and maintenance was a key player in making this happen."

According to Maj. Brady Glick, team leader and 1st Place High Altitude Dive Bomber, the competition was very challenging because of high winds. "A lot of the other teams were not able to cope with it as well as we were. The Connecticut Guard won the overall competition at Hawgsmoke. The Battle Creek Guard unit hosted the competition and the whole program was really a first class event. There was a lot of community support and involvement."

A message from the Operations Group Commander

917th Wing Office of Public Affairs 1000 Davis Avenue E Bldg. 6803, Rm. 229 Barksdale AFB, LA 71110 Vol. 7 No. 12 December 2000

Gator Gazette

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Fax: (318) 456-7444 Inputs for the *Gator Gazette* can also be made through e-mail to 917wg.pa@barksdale.af.mil



The sagging pumpkin on my front porch is a stark reminder that the Christmas holidays are right around the corner. Time always seems to speed up as fall arrives, and doing so makes it easy for us to find ourselves overwhelmed with activities and commitments.

Just as the expression on my carving has turned more serious, I would challenge one and all to take into serious consideration the many blessings we enjoy and reflect upon the things that are really important to us in our lives. It's easy to get caught up in events and only natural to have to push some things onto the back burner as we pick and choose and prioritize in our daily routines. But by taking a momentary break and stepping back to look objectively at things we sometimes see differently or a little more clearly.

So I urge everyone to catch their breath while we're not immediately under the gun of the next big event at work and think about the people and things that mean the most to them. Of course our families and loved ones rank number one; then comes a whole variety of things – hopefully a distant second!

And what about the family we work with day in and day out? They ought to rank right up there somewhere as well. As much as our missions, aircraft, jobs, and individual specialties differ, we



Col. Richard P. Volden

all labor toward a common cause. Remember, it's these differences that make this all work. We enjoy the successes we do because of these variations, not in spite of them.

I wish everyone a joyous, fulfilling holiday season and above all encourage regard to all the safety issues that come along with the usual hustle and bustle of the times. We need to meet 2001 at full strength; see you there!

Chaplain's Corner: Happy Holidays

By Chaplain (Maj.) Bill Willis, Sr.

The Month of December brings two major religious Festivals, Hanukkah and Christmas.

Hanukkah or the Jewish Festival of Lights begins on December 22nd this year and lasts through December 29th. This festival celebrates the historic recapture of Jerusalem from the Syrian Greeks in 165 B.C.E. After the Temple was cleansed, the great Menorah was re-lit. But there was only a tiny bottle of oil found which would only last one day. Miraculously, the

oil burned for eight days. Thus began the annual celebration of Hanukkah, a festival of freedom from tyranny. Today Hanukkah is observed by lighting an additional candle in a Menorah each night, singing special songs, exchanging gifts, and eating potato pancakes.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, which is observed on December 25th (or January 6th among Eastern Orthodox Christians). Most Christians observe this holiday with special worship

services, colorful decorations, including evergreen trees and lights, and gift exchanges. Santa Claus (originally known as Saint Nicholas) delivers toys to children on Christmas Day. Christmas is usually observed as a legal holiday by government and business.

However you celebrate during this holiday season, may God bless you and keep you safe. Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas from the 917th Chapel Staff!

Did you know?

The Air Force Exchange Service has removed any drugs containing phenylpropanolamine from its shelves after a Food and Drug Administration warning to consumers to stop using over-the-counter cough and cold medications and appetite suppressants (diet pills) containing PPA.

According to the FDA, PPA could cause hemorrhagic strokes, or bleeding in the brain, in young women

Among the products affected are cough-cold

remedies such as Alka-Seltzer Plus, Dimetapp and Triaminic, along with the diet pills Dexatrim and Acutrim. Customers with cough and cold symptoms can purchase other over-the-counter drugs such as Sudafed, Benadryl, Drixoral and AAFES-brand products containing a safe alternative called pseudoephedrine, said exchange service officials.

If you have any questions regarding this action, the FDA has established a direct toll-free line at 1-888-463-6332, or consult your health care provider.

Airmen honored with birthday dinner

A quarterly birthday dinner for all airmen assigned to the 917th Wing began Nov. 4, at 5 p.m. in the Red River Dining Facility.

This night honored airmen having birthdays during the third quarter (Oct., Nov. and Dec.) of 2000.

"The birthday dinner went well in spite of the low turn out," said Maj. Steve Powell, 917th Services officer. Eight birthday personnel honored (out of 99 eligible) were treated to a 6 course meal served to them by very attentive and professional servers. The dinner started with a shrimp cocktail, the main entree selections were steak to order or lobster.

The airmen and their guests were seated in a specific area of the facility. A birthday cake was served following the meal.

The honorees were: Anthony L Ghio - 917th Wing, Cato Haggerty III - 917th Misson Support Squadron, Deandralette M. Latin - 917th Communication Flight, Kelly L Reid - 307 RED HORSE, Casey L. Roberson - 917 MSSQ, Shon D. Turner - 307 RHS, David G. Walker - 917th Logistics Group, and Tony Yarbrough - 917 CF.

We encourage everyone eligible to contact their First Sergeants by the January UTA for inclusion in the First Quarter Airmen's Birthday Dinner 2001.

This will include all E1 - E 4 with birthdays from Jan through Mar and will

be conducted on Saturday, Feb. 3.

For more information, contact Maj. Steve Powell at 456-8300 or Senior Master Sgt. Lorraine Warren-Dawn at 456-8278.

AEF deployment mass briefings scheduled

Required deployment briefings for AEF deployment are scheduled for Dec. and Jan. of the main UTA.

Briefings will include theater/operation reporting instructions, legal, family readiness, intelligence, anti-terrorism and public health.

Primary and alternate volunteers should attend the UTA prior to their departure dates. Only volunteers who are assigned to a contingency plan and with a designated Unit Line and Position Number are authorized to attend the briefings.

All individuals attending a briefing must have obtained unit commander's written approval, a pre-screening evaluation from 917th Medical Squadron for medical/dental clearance and started outprocessing procedures utilizing a theater specific out-processing checklist from personnel readiness. The AEF deployment briefings are currently scheduled for December and January.

December UTA briefing Schedule

Date: Sunday, Dec. 3, noon Deployment location: Incirlik, Turkey January UTA briefing schedule

Date: Sunday, Jan. 7, noon Deployed location: Guatemala

Date: Sunday, Jan. 7, 1230 p.m.

Deployment location: Honduras

All briefings are in the 917th Wing commanders conference room. For more information, contact Mrs. Donna McMillian or Staff Sgt. Dwayne Richards at 456-7201.

Make the grades count

AAFES offers "You Made the Grade" program for BAFB students.

This is the program for students in grade 6-12... for those that make a "B" average on their report card.

AAFES awards them with a coupon package worth about \$50.00. The major part of this coupon book is a mail-in entry blank for a chance to win up to \$5,000 in a U.S. savings bond. Actually there will be 3 bonds awarded each semester (1) \$2,000 1)\$3,000 and (1) \$5,000

The student or parent/guardian...needs to bring their report card to the customer service area at the Main Store to receive the coupon book. If the student is "home taught" then a letter from that parent/ teacher certifying that student obtained a "B" average during the current semester/ reporting period is needed.

LDP Class offered

The next NCO Leadership Development class is scheduled for Feb. 21-25 and Feb. 28 - March 1.

If you are a Staff or Tech. Sgt. and would like to attend, contact your supervisor, First Sgt. or commander by Dec. 5.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Pat Roberson at 456-8066.

Enjoy lunch at the enlisted club

Beat the crowd, dine on base in the exclusive, military enlisted club at lunch time during the unit training assembly. They offer comfortable dining and great service.

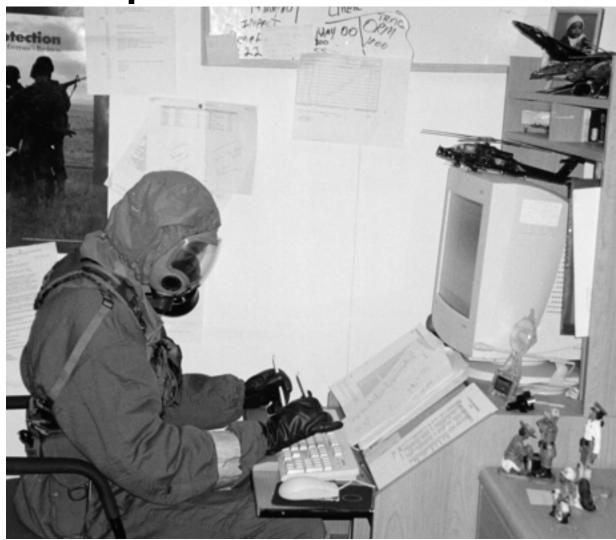
Come as a group or come by yourself. Bring your club card coupon and get an additional \$1 off.

Menu

Jumbo Burger w/chips \$4.95 with fries + .50 Jumbo cheese burger with chips \$5.95 Hot wings 12 pc with celery stick and Ranch dressing \$3.95

Croissant ham/cheese with chips \$3.95 Croissant turkey/cheese with chips \$3.75 Soup and Salad bar \$3.50

Attack response exercise--learn MOPP



PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. HARRY BAUER

917th Anti-terrorism force Staff Sgt Christopher Bowman in MOPP Level 4, preparing an operation data base.

By Staff Sgt. Teena Britton Wing Public Affairs

Many rushed for cover as they heard explosions followed by the sounds of alarms going off in the distance. Each hurried to don their gas mask and breathe through the mask that may one day save their lives.

The 917th Wing held an attack response exercise during the Nov. UTA. The attacks started at 8 a.m. Saturday morning. Personnel practiced going to MOPP level 2 and 4 for a four hour period in preparation for their upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.

"This exercise is not complex, it's simple," said Col. Richard Schmidt, 917th Support Group commander. "These are skills needed out in the field to survive." The Wing has a wartime mission and this training exercise is a requirement for all personnel in war-fighting skills.

During the exercise troops donned their chemical warfare suits while continuing to perform their normal work schedule.

According to Master Sgt. Bob Even, 917th Readiness Flight, the sections also reviewed training in buddy care, first aid and security.

"What people practice and remember may be the very thing that saves their lives in war," said Schmidt. "Each time a person remembers a little bit more." More exercises are planned in preparation for the June and November 2002 ORI.



Staff Sgt Patrick Burnett, 917th firefighter, inspects equipment on a fire truck.

Saying goodbye

Chief Master Sgt. leaves military after 34 years

By Chief Master Sgt L. B. Jones 47th Fighter Squadron

To the men and women of the 917th Wing, which I have been associated with for the last 34 years, it has really been a blessing to have spent most of my military career in one unit. I have traveled many places with some of you, worked close with some, but believe it or not, I leave the 917th feeling and hoping that I have touched someone in a positive way. I know that many people within this wing have positively affected my life.

Through the years, I have met many people and have established many friendships, friendships that will be a part of my life for many years to come. As I leave my position to begin a new life, it is important that I thank the people who have made this journey possible and successful.

I would like especially to say to the young airmen, as I always do, it's nice to

be a chief, so don't just set your goal for technical or master sergeant. A friend of mine wrote, it is true that no man is an island, and it takes all the people around him to accomplish what he set out to do. I set out to be a good son, a good family man, and a good employee. Time is the only measurement of how well I have done. But I do know that without all of you I would not be where I am.

To the 47th Fighter Squadron, there are no words that I can use to express what a blessing it is to end a career with you. As I close this career, I say once more, thanks to all of you for your support throughout the years. I will continue to cherish the memories of the time we shared. As I say goodbye, I know that God will continue to bless and guide you through this journey called life. Good luck to all of you, goodbye.



Chief Master Sgt. L. B. Jones

Get One program kicks off



PHOTO BY MRS. BETTY STEPHENS

Lt. Col. Charlie Morgan, 917th Wing performance planner, enlists Airman Basic Samuel Cole, IV, a recruit at the 917th Wing, in November. Following his enlistment he departed for basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas, and he will remain there for supply apprentice school before returning to the wing.

By Mrs. Betty Stephens Wing Public Affairs

After much waiting and anticipation, we are proud to announce the start of the new and improved Air Force Reserve Command "Get one" program. This program kicked off Oct. 1.

You should know: you're one of them. And you're serving your country because there's something about the Air Force that you love. Benefits. Adventure. Unit camaraderie. It's different for everyone.

Start talking. And listening. Which of your friends, family or workers has already told you what they think about the Reserve. Tell them what it is really like. Find out if that person would like to learn more, and give their name to the 917th Wing's recruiters.

This is a national program. You can receive enlistment awards from Headquarters, and as an added incentive, Chief Master Sgt. John Brasher, 917th Wing senior recruiter, offers for each referral who joins, your choice of a reserve mug, hat or T-shirt. There is no limit to the number of referrals submitted. However, referrals must enlist within 24 months to qualify for an enlistment award.

Contact your recruiters today at 456-9751; or stop by and pick up several Air Force Reserve "Get One" program cards. Let's get started.

In a real world situation do you feel the chemical Voices: warfare suit would protect you against threats?



Master Sgt. Gary Batchelor 93rd Bomb Squadron

"I hope the suit will protect me, that is all I have, but I feel pretty good about it."



Tech. Sgt. Lenka Isaac 917th Mission Support Squadron

"Yes, the suit will protect me in a real attack, that is what they are made to do and I want to believe it."



Tech. Sgt. Gregory Malone 93rd Bomb Squadron

"It would take to long to get everything on, but other than that I feel it would work to protect against a real world attack."



Staff Sgt. Demetrius Wallace Civil 917th Engineer Squadron

"I feel the real suit, not the training one we use for exercises, would protect me in a real chemical attach. You've got to believe."

917th Wing Promotions and Newcomers

Master Sergeants

Kenneth D. Atchison Torrance E. Bedford Monique F. Bonton Charles R. Brewster William J. Gemmell James D. Monk

Technical Sergeants

Bruce M. Foerman Rhonda L. Harms Mary A. Jordan Madonna K. Kaleta Alan S. Perryman Irvin F. Russell, Jr. Alma A. Williams Rachell R. Wood

Staff Sergeants

Christopher Blackman Anthony D. Evans Tony J. Ingram Tony L. Lambert Thomas P. Lee Henry P. Lester Joseph E. Owens Michael A. Pierce Diego A. Sifuentes Stephen R. Sorge Shon D. Turner Jerome C. Ware Senior Airman Ariel V. Byndom James O. Dean Tyosha N. Johnson Latasha D. Mitchell Justine Y. Pearson

David V. Tolliver

Airman 1st Class

Damien D. Allen Lisa M. Cattron Stephen M. Corby Kiwinana Franklin Nicholas K. Gaines Lakenia S. Gibson Shaletha R. Hall Jason B. Howie Latrina O. Roy David G. Walker Airman

Patricia Gonzalez

Newcomers

93rd Bomb Squadron

Maj. Gregory Meunier, Shreveport, La.

917th Medical Squadron

Staff Sgt. Tabatha Olavarria, Mount Pleasant, Texas

Staff Sgt. Kyle Pendergrass, Tyler, Texas 917th Logistics Support

Squadron Staff Sgt. Laurie Morgan,

Haughton, La

47th Fighter Squadron Staff Sgt. Lora Doughtery, Everman, Texas 917th Civil Engineer

Squadron Staff Sgt. Richard Mcardle,

Mesquite, Texas 307th RED HORSE Staff Sgt. Charles Weaver,

Haughton, La.

917th Wing prepares of 2002 ORI



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO

93rd Bomb Squadron maintenance personnel prepare for the 2002 Operational Readiness Inspection as they take cover during the November UTA ability to survive and operate exercise.

The 917th Wing is scheduled for an Operational Readiness Inspection in 2002. Prior to the inspection the Wing will perform more ATSO exercises in preparation for the main one.

The ORI exercise consist of two phases, the first inspects the wings mobility, the second phase inspects the wing on how to survive an attack at your forward operation location. These two phases are schedule for June and Nov. 2002.

Have you been given an Air Force Handbook 32-4014, Vol. 4, USAF ATSO guide?

917th Wing Training Schedule

December UTA 2-3				
Time	Event		Location	
Saturday				
0600 UTA prayer breakfast		akfast	Red River Inn Dining	
0630-0700	Sign-in		Assigned unit	
0700	Wing staff meet	ing	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	
0700	Intro all newo	comers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
0730-1030	Immunizations		Base hospital, 2nd Floor	
0730	Long & Short fl	y physicals	Flight surgeon office	
0730-1000	Body fat measu	rement	Base hospital	
0730-1000	Immunizations		Base hospital	
0800	Chem. Warfare	Refresher	Hangar 7	
0800	Physicals (non-	fly)	Base hospital foyer	
0900	Anti-terrorism t	•	Bldg. 6803, Rm 227	
0900-1000	Yellow fever sh	ots	Base hospital	
0930, 1030 & 1330	Family readines	s briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17	
1000	Unit deploymen	-	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
1000	First sergeants'		Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	
1100-1130	Protestant service		Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
1300-1430	Immunizations		47th Hangar	
1300	HRDC meeting		Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	
1300	Chem. Warfare	Refresher	Hangar 7	
1300	Unit Safety Rep	. meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
1300	Flightline driver		Bldg. 6825, Rm. 243	
1400	MSSQ comman		Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
1550-1615 Si	gn-out 1550 LS	1600MS	1610-CES, MSS, WG	
Sunday				
0630-0700	Sign in		Assigned Unit	
0800	_	(appointment only)	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 329	
0800	Human Relation		Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
0800-1200	EO 2000		Bldg. 4714, 3rd Floor	
0800	Chem. Warfare	Refresher	Hangar 7	
0900	Unit advisory co	ouncil	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	
0900	LSS commande		Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	
0900	Substance Abus	e	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	
0900	Catholic Mass		Base Chapel 2	
0900-1200	Intermediate Ac	cess	Bldg. 4238, STARBASE	
1030	Family readines	s briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17	
1230	EOC testing	Č	Bldg. 4314, 3rd floor	
1230	SORTS meetin	g	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	
1300-1600	Intermediate Po	_	Bldg. 4238, STARBASE	
1300	Eyeglass inserts		Bldg. 4845 (by hospital)	
1400		Wing commanders call Hoban Hall		
	gn-out 1550 LS	1600MS	1610-CES, MSS, WG	

Know anyone who is looking for a recruiter?

Barksdale AFB, La. Master Sgt. Dave Myers Master Sgt. Joe Menna 1-800-241-4071

Little Rock AFB, Ark. Master Sgt. Kris Jaso

501-987-7188

Mesquite/Tyler, Texas

Staff Sgt. Brian Mobely 972-681-6384/903-534-8618 Shreveport, La.

Tech. Sgt. Don Copeland 318-683-0331

Texarkana, Texas

Staff Sgt. TeNeuss Land 903-223-7030

Monroe, La.

Senior Airman Mike Devillier 318-323-1898

SERVICES

Military Personnel Flight

Bldg. 6803, Room 140, ext. 9205 **Saturday**

7 - 11 a.m. - Newcomers in-processing. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. -All customer service functions (open during lunch)

Sunday

7 - 8 a.m. - Closed for training. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch) 2:30 - 4 p.m. - Closed for training.

Monday - Friday

7 a.m. - 4 p.m. All service.

NOTE: Customer Service functions include in & out processing, ID cards, DEERS, DD93s, SGLI, Vehicle Decals, Record Reviews, etc.

Base Billeting

Bldg. 5155, 456-3091/3092

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week (reservations required).

Chaplain

Bldg. 6803, Room 239, 456-9179

Friday & Saturday - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Red River Dining Hall

Bldg. 4631

Breakfast - 5:30 - 6:30 a.m. MS - 11 - 1 Lunch 47FS - 11:45 WG - 11 MSS - 11:45 93 BS - 11:15 CES - noon SFS - 12:15

Shuttle service to the dining hall runs every 20 minutes starting at 11 a.m.. Pick-up points are Bldg. 6850, 6825 and 6803)

NOTE: You must show ID card, newcomer's letter or DD form 1172. Family Readiness

Bldg. 4713

Saturday & Sunday - 8 - 11 a.m.

Military drivers license

Military drivers license issue is available on the main UTA in Bldg. 6825, Rm. 240. Issue hours: Saturday & Sunday noon - 2 p.m.

Lodging

For information on official or space "A" lodging call 1-888-AF-LODGE. Once the automated system answers, key in the first three letters of the base you are trying to reach.

Military Pay

Main UTA Schedule

Sat. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Gov. Credit Card Service

Bldg. 6803, Room 203, 456-9546

Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Main UTA - 7 a.m. -4 p.m.

Military clothing issue

Wednesday 10 - 11:30 a.m. Main UTA Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Native Americans celebrate culture heritage



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN SHANNON COLLINS

Left: Master Sgt. Sandra Alford, 917th Mission Support Squadron, and her husband David dance during an intertribal dance Nov. 12 at Barksdale's second annual Thanksgiving Pow Wow at the Eighth Air Force Museum.

Bottom center: Catrina Schoop, daughter of Master Sgt. Sandra Alford, 917th Mission Support Squadron, Ottawa tribe member and last year's Barksdale Pow Wow princess, sings the National Anthem.



A real teepee with a handmade pelt in front.



917th Wing 1000 Davis Ave. East Barksdale AFB, LA 71110-2287

OFFICIAL BUSINESS Penalty for Private Use \$300



A hand-made regalia with particular detail paid to the feathers.

UTA Schedule

Main	Alternate
Dec. 2-3	Dec. 2-3
Jan. 6-7, 2001	Jan. 20-21, 2001
Feb. 3-4	Feb. 10-11
Mar. 3-4	Mar. 17-18
Apr. 7-8	Apr. 21-22
May 5-6	May 19-20
June 2-3	June 23-24
July 14-15	July 21-22
Aug. 4-5	Aug. 18-19
Sept. 8-9	Sept. 22-23

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